

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05
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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 5403

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, KS, SW
SUBJ: VISIT TO SOUTH KOREA OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
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GENERAL

REF: TOKYO 19808

1. FOLLOWING HIS PARTICIPATION AT THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL
TOKYO MEETING DESCRIBED REFTEL, SI SEC GEN BERNT CARLSSON (OF
SWEDEN) PAID A TWO-DAY VISIT TO SEOUL DECEMBER 24-25 AT THE

REQUEST OF SI CHAIRMAN WILLY BRANDT. CARLSSON TRAVELLED TO SEOUL IN THE COMPANY OF ROK UNITED SOCIALIST PARTY CHAIRMAN KIM CHUL WHO, AT THE TOKYO MEETING, HAD SEVERELY CRITIZED JAPANESE (INCLUDING JAPANESE SOCIALIST) SUPPORT OF DICTATORIAL REGIMES IN ASIA, MOST PARTICULARLY THE PARK REGIME IN SOUTH KOREA. ON DECEMBER 27, STOCKHOLM DAILY DAGENS NYHETER PUBLISHED AN EXCLUSIVE ARTICLE BY THE PAPER'S SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BO GUNNARSSON IN TOKYO, WHO INTERVIEWED CARLSSON UPON HIS RETURN FROM SEOUL. GUNNARSSON ACCOUNT FOLLOWS.

2. "A REPORT ON BERNT CARLSSON'S TRIP TO SOUTH KOREA THAT HE MADE OVER CHRISTMAS AT THE REQUEST OF WILLY BRANDT. SOUTH KOREA'S SMALL AND PERSECUTED SOCIALIST PARTY HAS NEVER BEFORE HAD SO MUCH PUBLICITY IN ITS HOME COUNTRY THAN THIS CHRISMAS. KIM CHUL -- THE LEADER -- WHO HAS BEEN DEPRIVED OF HIS POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS, RETURNED FROM THE SI'S MEETING IN TOKYO TOGETHER WITH THREE GUESTS, AMONG THEM CARLSSON. TO REDUCE THE CRITICISM FROM THE US AND WESTERN EUROPE, THE DICTATOR PARK ALLOWED THE PARTY TO HOLD TWO PRESS CONFERENCES THAT WERE COVERED IN ALL MASS MEDIA, EVEN TELEVISION. BUT ALREADY YESTERDAY, DEC 25, THE COLD REALITY RETURNED AND KIM CHUL WAS INTERROGATED BY THE KOREAN CIA. BERNT CARLSSON: 'JUST AS WE ENTERED THE AIRPORT ON OUR ARRIVAL, TWO KCIA AGENTS SHOWED UP AND PRESENTED A WRITTEN MESSAGE TO KIM CHUL: 'WE HAVE LEARNED ABOUT YOUR STATEMENTS IN TOKYO WITH DISMAY AND WE URGE YOU TO PRESENT AN EXPLANATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE', THE MESSAGE SAID. THEN WHEN WE HAD PASSED

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THE IMMIGRATION CONTROL, A GROUP OF JOURNALISTS SHOWED UP. IT ALMOST SEEMED AS IF THEY HAD BEEN ORDERED OUT TO THE AIRPORT JUST TO PROVE TO US THAT THE PRESS IN SOUTH KOREA IS FREE', CARLSSON SAID. KCIA AS EXPECTED DID NOT GRANT PERMISSION FOR A PLANNED MASS MEETING. SO BERNT CARLSSON INSTEAD SPOKE BEFORE 150 LEADERS OF THE PARTY AT A DINNER. AT A LARGE PRESS CONFERENCE ON CHRISTMAS EVE, HE DEMANDED AMONG OTHER THINGS FREEDOM AND THE RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE FOR LABOR ORGANIZATIONS IN SOUTH KOREA AND HE URGED PARK TO RELEASE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS. BERNT CARLSSON SAID THAT HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO MEET WITH THE IMPRISONED FORMER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE KIM DAE JUNG WHO NOW IS BEING TREATED AT A HOSPITAL IN SEOUL. 'WE SPOKE FOR AN HOUR WITH HIS WIFE AND PRESENTED AN INVITATION TO KIM TO PARTICIPATE IN ON OF SI'S MEETINGS. APPARENTLY HE IS THE TRUE OPPOSITION LEADER IN SOUTH KOREA AND WE SUPPORT HIM AS STRONGLY AS WE DO KIM CHUL', CARLSSON SAID. HE ALSO SUMMED UP HIS IMPRESSIONS FROM HIS TWO-DAY VISIT: 'WE WERE STRICTLY WATCHED THE WHOLE TIME. THE PRESS CONFERENCES WERE OBVIOUSLY INFILTRATED BY KCIA AGENTS. I THINK WE GOT A PRETTY GOOD PICTURE OF THE DICTATORSHIP IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT PARK FOR THIS SPECIAL OCCASION HAD MADE CONCESSIONS. BUT AT THE SAME TIME WE ARE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO KIM CHUL.'"

KENNEDY-MINOTT

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